

## MURDER AT THE CASINO

Miss Paddington looked up the night sky from the entrance to the exclusive casinò in Kensington.London.

“Look at that beautiful, big moon!” she said to James Hudson.

“and the stars! They're shining so brightly” “Let's hope our lucky stars are shining down on us when we are at the roulette table. Miss Paddington.” Hudson replied.

And the two headed into the casinò



When they entered they were greeted by a waiter who took away the coats and guide them in the great all.

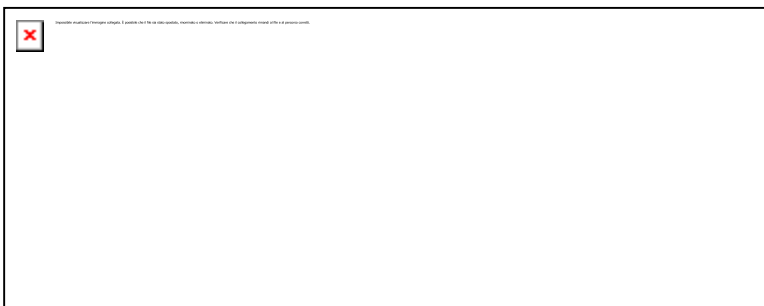
After a glass of champagne they headed towards the roulette where a crowd had gathered to observe a player who was playing for hours and winning tirelessly. His name was Mr. Blue, a rich entrepreneur from Manchester. He was avaricious and arrogant.

He thought only about money and profit, he had no family and he had many enemies; that evening he was squandering his possessions in alcohol and gambling.

Suddenly the lights went out in the room.

When the electricity came back Mr. Blue had slumped on the roulette and a knife was sticking out of his back, his mouth was full of blood which had dirtied his white smoking.

Someone shouted and the director called immediately an ambulance and the police.



When the police arrived, Mr. Hudson started to search evidences with the detective Heldens.

They began to wonder who could have thought and acted to eliminate Mr. Blue. The suspect

fell on the dealer and the player next to him at the table:

Mrs. Wedn, Sir Boldway , Charles Gallon and Robert Rusher , all the most powerful owners of London industries sat around him.

Among them the only real suspect was Charles Gallon , who had been competing and arch- enemy of Mr. Blue in the past. They had always challenged and obviously that evening they sat at the table to fight each other. Mr. Gallon defended himself with all his strength, and he created an alibi that all those present people confirmed , he was absent at the time of switching off the lights because he had gone outside to smoke a cigarette with some friends. Then, who was the murderer? Detective Heldens gave the answer while, checking fingerprints of suspects with those found on the table, on the knife and on the ball, he discovered that they coincided with those of the couprier: Mr.Yard.



The poor dealer confessed: Mr Blue had been fired a few months before and fortunately he had got a job at the casino, having learnt that that night his former employer would have found it he had devised a plan to take revenge.

So, once again the detective Heldens and Mr.Hudson solved the case.

Simone Patruno